

Appl. No. 09/802,354
Amdt. dated [insert date]
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

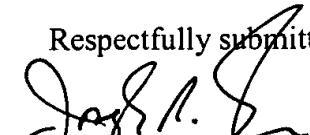
Applicants hereby elect Group I, drawn to a data processing system for artificial intelligence comprising reasoning under uncertainty, with traverse. Claims readable thereon include claims 1-8.

Applicants maintain that the restriction requirement is improper. Under MPEP § 803.01, there are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions:

- (A) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and
- (B) there must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required.

Applicants maintain that there is no serious burden on the Examiner to search Group I and Group IV (claims 1-8 and 17-24) in their entirety. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner join Groups I and IV and examine the claims on their merits.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request early action on the merits. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

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